Appln Serial No. 11/002,882
Amdt Dated November 5, 2007
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This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

Claims 1-25 (canceled)

Claim 26 (previously presented) The method of claim 40 further comprising maintaining presence and availability data for each user for each conference established.

Claim 27 (previously presented) The method of claim 40 further comprising the client process enabling a user to participate simultaneously in more than one conference and to proactively notify one or more other users of any changes to any of said conferences.

Claims 28-30 (canceled)

Claim 31 (previously presented) The method of claim 26 wherein the user has both a voice communication media device and a programmed communication media device and the user is currently participating in a conference involving one of said media devices, said method further comprising the client process establishing a second simultaneous conference involving the other of said media devices.

Claim 32 (previously presented) The method of claim 31 wherein said step of establishing the second conference comprises:

> said client process requesting a communication controller to create said second
> > conference; and
> said conference controller using presence and availability data from the prior
> > established conference to invite all of the participants in the prior
> > established conference to join the second conference.

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Claims 33-39 (canceled)

Claim 40 (currently amended) A method for establishing secure, multimedia conferences including a plurality of users, each of said users having a client process and at least one of a voice communication media device for audio conferencing and a programmed communication media device for text conferencing, said method comprising the steps of:

a user communicating with a conference server to initiate and receive conference
participation requests;

employing a user interface in said client process to signal a communication
controller to create a persistent conference wherein the conference server
indicates the conference ~~initiator~~ creator, retains identification of the
persistent conference after users to the persistent conference leave the
persistent conference, and permits users who left the conference to rejoin
the conference;

establishing, via a routing server, a communication media connection to one of
the user's communication media devices for participation in a conference;

determining by executing a Kerberos protocol that the user is entitled to
participate in the conference;

securing communications being sent to the conference server by encrypting and
decrypting of the communications after said step of determining that the
user is entitled to participate in the conference using a Session Initiation
Protocol and including:

encrypting a secret conference session key with the user's secret key for
communication of a conference session key to the user;

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obtaining, via a security process within the client process of the user, the

encrypted secret conference session key from the conference server for a

conference in which the user is participating;

time stamping, encrypting, and authenticating message data using the conference

session key;

sending the encrypted time stamp, authentication and message data to a user on

the conference; and

if the authentication and time stamp are valid, the client process of the user

decrypting the secret conference session key using the user's secret key

and decrypting the message data using the decrypted secret conference

session key; and

mixing via the client process associated with the user the communications from a

plurality of conference participants for either a multipoint audio media

conference or a multipoint media conference involving the user.

Claims 41-42 (canceled)

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